

UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT
NORTHERN DISTRICT OF ILLINOIS
EASTERN DIVISION

IN RE

Donald E Barton

Debtor(s)

)
)
)
)
)

Chapter **13**

Bankruptcy Case No.

DECLARATION REGARDING ELECTRONIC FILING

Signed by Debtor(s) or Corporate Representative
To Be Used When Filing over the Internet

PART I - DECLARATION OF PETITIONER

Date: _____

A. To be completed in all cases.

I(We) Donald E Barton, the undersigned debtor, corporate officer, partner, or member, hereby declare under penalty of perjury that the information I have given my attorney, including correct social security number and the information provided in the electronically filed petition, statements, schedules, and if applicable, application to pay filing fee in installments, and Application for Waiver of the Chapter 7 Filing Fee, is true and correct. I consent to my attorney sending the petition, statements, schedules, and this DECLARATION to the United States Bankruptcy Court. I understand that this DECLARATION must be filed with the Clerk in addition to the petition. I understand that failure to file this DECLARATION will cause this case to be dismissed pursuant to 11 U.S.C. sections 707(a) and 105.

B. To be checked and applicable only if the petitioner is an individual (or individuals) whose debts are primarily consumer debts and who has (or have) chosen to file under chapter 7.

☐ I(we) am(are) aware that I(we) may proceed under chapter 7, 11, 12, or 13 of Title 11 United States Code; I(we) understand the relief available under each such chapter; I(we) choose to proceed under chapter 7; and I(we) request relief in accordance with chapter 7.

C. To be checked and applicable only if the petition is a corporation, partnership, or limited liability entity.

☐ I declare under penalty of perjury that the information provided in this petition is true and correct and that I have been authorized to file this petition on behalf of the debtor. The debtor requests relief in accordance with the chapter specified in the petition.

Signature: /s/ Donald E Barton

Donald E Barton

(Debtor or Corporate Officer, Partner or Member)

United States Bankruptcy Court Northern District of Illinois Eastern Division						Voluntary Petition					
Name of Debtor (if individual, enter Last, First, Middle): Barton, Donald, E						Name of Joint Debtor (Spouse) (Last, First, Middle):					
All Other Names used by the Debtor in the last 8 years (include married, maiden, and trade names):						All Other Names used by the Joint Debtor in the last 8 years (include married, maiden, and trade names):					
Last four digits of Soc. Sec. or Individual-Taxpayer I.D. (ITIN) No./Complete EIN(if more than one, state all): xxx-xx-8299						Last four digits of Soc. Sec. or Individual-Taxpayer I.D. (ITIN) No./Complete EIN(if more than one, state all):					
Street Address of Debtor (No. & Street, City, and State): 3000 Sherwood Ave Markham, IL						Street Address of Joint Debtor (No. & Street, City, and State):					
ZIP CODE 60428						ZIP CODE					
County of Residence or of the Principal Place of Business: Cook						County of Residence or of the Principal Place of Business:					
Mailing Address of Debtor (if different from street address):						Mailing Address of Joint Debtor (if different from street address):					
ZIP CODE						ZIP CODE					
Location of Principal Assets of Business Debtor (if different from street address above):											
ZIP CODE											
Type of Debtor (Form of Organization) (Check one box.) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Individual (includes Joint Debtors) <i>See Exhibit D on page 2 of this form.</i> <input type="checkbox"/> Corporation (includes LLC and LLP) <input type="checkbox"/> Partnership <input type="checkbox"/> Other (If debtor is not one of the above entities, check this box and state type of entity below.) _____				Nature of Business (Check one box) <input type="checkbox"/> Health Care Business <input type="checkbox"/> Single Asset Real Estate as defined in 11 U.S.C. § 101(51B) <input type="checkbox"/> Railroad <input type="checkbox"/> Stockbroker <input type="checkbox"/> Commodity Broker <input type="checkbox"/> Clearing Bank <input type="checkbox"/> Other <hr/> Tax-Exempt Entity (Check box, if applicable) <input type="checkbox"/> Debtor is a tax-exempt organization under Title 26 of the United States Code (the Internal Revenue Code.)				Chapter of Bankruptcy Code Under Which the Petition is Filed (Check one box) <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <div style="width: 48%;"> <input type="checkbox"/> Chapter 7 <input type="checkbox"/> Chapter 9 <input type="checkbox"/> Chapter 11 <input type="checkbox"/> Chapter 12 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Chapter 13 </div> <div style="width: 48%;"> <input type="checkbox"/> Chapter 15 Petition for Recognition of a Foreign Main Proceeding <input type="checkbox"/> Chapter 15 Petition for Recognition of a Foreign Nonmain Proceeding </div> </div> <div style="margin-top: 10px;"> Nature of Debts (Check one box) <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <div style="width: 48%;"> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Debts are primarily consumer debts, defined in 11 U.S.C. § 101(8) as “incurred by an individual primarily for a personal, family, or household purpose.” </div> <div style="width: 48%;"> <input type="checkbox"/> Debts are primarily business debts. </div> </div> </div>			
Filing Fee (Check one box) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Full Filing Fee attached <input type="checkbox"/> Filing Fee to be paid in installments (applicable to individuals only). Must attach signed application for the court's consideration certifying that the debtor is unable to pay fee except in installments. Rule 1006(b) See Official Form 3A. <input type="checkbox"/> Filing Fee waiver requested (applicable to chapter 7 individuals only). Must attach signed application for the court's consideration. See Official Form 3B.						Chapter 11 Debtors Check one box: <input type="checkbox"/> Debtor is a small business debtor as defined in 11 U.S.C. § 101(51D). <input type="checkbox"/> Debtor is not a small business debtor as defined in 11 U.S.C. § 101(51D). Check if: <input type="checkbox"/> Debtor's aggregate noncontingent liquidated debts (excluding debts owed to insiders or affiliates) are less than \$2,190,000. ----- Check all applicable boxes <input type="checkbox"/> A plan is being filed with this petition <input type="checkbox"/> Acceptances of the plan were solicited prepetition from one or more classes of creditors, in accordance with 11 U.S.C. § 1126(b).					
Statistical/Administrative Information <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Debtor estimates that funds will be available for distribution to unsecured creditors. <input type="checkbox"/> Debtor estimates that, after any exempt property is excluded and administrative expenses paid, there will be no funds available for distribution to unsecured creditors.										THIS SPACE IS FOR COURT USE ONLY	
Estimated Number of Creditors <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <div style="width: 10%;"> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1-49 </div> <div style="width: 10%;"> <input type="checkbox"/> 50-99 </div> <div style="width: 10%;"> <input type="checkbox"/> 100-199 </div> <div style="width: 10%;"> <input type="checkbox"/> 200-999 </div> <div style="width: 10%;"> <input type="checkbox"/> 1,000-5,000 </div> <div style="width: 10%;"> <input type="checkbox"/> 5,001-10,000 </div> <div style="width: 10%;"> <input type="checkbox"/> 10,001-25,000 </div> <div style="width: 10%;"> <input type="checkbox"/> 25,001-50,000 </div> <div style="width: 10%;"> <input type="checkbox"/> 50,001-100,000 </div> <div style="width: 10%;"> <input type="checkbox"/> Over 100,000 </div> </div>											
Estimated Assets <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <div style="width: 10%;"> <input type="checkbox"/> \$0 to \$50,000 </div> <div style="width: 10%;"> <input type="checkbox"/> \$50,001 to \$100,000 </div> <div style="width: 10%;"> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> \$100,001 to \$500,000 </div> <div style="width: 10%;"> <input type="checkbox"/> \$500,001 to \$1 million </div> <div style="width: 10%;"> <input type="checkbox"/> \$1,000,001 to \$10 million </div> <div style="width: 10%;"> <input type="checkbox"/> \$10,000,001 to \$50 million </div> <div style="width: 10%;"> <input type="checkbox"/> \$50,000,001 to \$100 million </div> <div style="width: 10%;"> <input type="checkbox"/> \$100,000,001 to \$500 million </div> <div style="width: 10%;"> <input type="checkbox"/> \$500,000,001 to \$1 billion </div> <div style="width: 10%;"> <input type="checkbox"/> More than \$1 billion </div> </div>											
Estimated Liabilities <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <div style="width: 10%;"> <input type="checkbox"/> \$0 to \$50,000 </div> <div style="width: 10%;"> <input type="checkbox"/> \$50,001 to \$100,000 </div> <div style="width: 10%;"> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> \$100,001 to \$500,000 </div> <div style="width: 10%;"> <input type="checkbox"/> \$500,001 to \$1 million </div> <div style="width: 10%;"> <input type="checkbox"/> \$1,000,001 to \$10 million </div> <div style="width: 10%;"> <input type="checkbox"/> \$10,000,001 to \$50 million </div> <div style="width: 10%;"> <input type="checkbox"/> \$50,000,001 to \$100 million </div> <div style="width: 10%;"> <input type="checkbox"/> \$100,000,001 to \$500 million </div> <div style="width: 10%;"> <input type="checkbox"/> \$500,000,001 to \$1 billion </div> <div style="width: 10%;"> <input type="checkbox"/> More than \$1 billion </div> </div>											

Voluntary Petition

(This page must be completed and filed in every case)

Document

Page 3 of 15

Name of Debtor(s):

Donald E Barton**All Prior Bankruptcy Cases Filed Within Last 8 Years** (If more than two, attach additional sheet.)

Location Where Filed: NONE	Case Number:	Date Filed:
Location Where Filed:	Case Number:	Date Filed:

Pending Bankruptcy Case Filed by any Spouse, Partner or Affiliate of this Debtor (If more than one, attach additional sheet)

Name of Debtor: NONE	Case Number:	Date Filed:
District:	Relationship:	Judge:

Exhibit A

(To be completed if debtor is required to file periodic reports (e.g., forms 10K and 10Q) with the Securities and Exchange Commission pursuant to Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 and is requesting relief under chapter 11.)

☐ Exhibit A is attached and made a part of this petition.**Exhibit B**

(To be completed if debtor is an individual whose debts are primarily consumer debts)

I, the attorney for the petitioner named in the foregoing petition, declare that I have informed the petitioner that [he or she] may proceed under chapter 7, 11, 12, or 13 of title 11, United States Code, and have explained the relief available under each such chapter. I further certify that I have delivered to the debtor the notice required by 11 U.S.C. § 342(b).

X /s/Karen J. Porter**10/6/2008**

Signature of Attorney for Debtor(s)

Date

Karen J. Porter**6188626****Exhibit C**

Does the debtor own or have possession of any property that poses or is alleged to pose a threat of imminent and identifiable harm to public health or safety?

☐ Yes, and Exhibit C is attached and made a part of this petition.☒ No**Exhibit D**

(To be completed by every individual debtor. If a joint petition is filed, each spouse must complete and attach a separate Exhibit D.)

☐ Exhibit D completed and signed by the debtor is attached and made a part of this petition.

If this is a joint petition:

☐ Exhibit D also completed and signed by the joint debtor is attached and made a part of this petition.**Information Regarding the Debtor - Venue**

(Check any applicable box)

- ☒ Debtor has been domiciled or has had a residence, principal place of business, or principal assets in this District for 180 days immediately preceding the date of this petition or for a longer part of such 180 days than in any other District.
- ☐ There is a bankruptcy case concerning debtor's affiliate, general partner, or partnership pending in this District.
- ☐ Debtor is a debtor in a foreign proceeding and has its principal place of business or principal assets in the United States in this District, or has no principal place of business or assets in the United States but is a defendant in an action or proceeding [in a federal or state court] in this District, or the interests of the parties will be served in regard to the relief sought in this District.

Certification by a Debtor Who Resides as a Tenant of Residential Property

(Check all applicable boxes.)

- ☐
- Landlord has a judgment against the debtor for possession of debtor's residence. (If box checked, complete the following).

(Name of landlord that obtained judgment)

(Address of landlord)

- ☐ Debtor claims that under applicable nonbankruptcy law, there are circumstances under which the debtor would be permitted to cure the entire monetary default that gave rise to the judgment for possession, after the judgment for possession was entered, and
- ☐ Debtor has included in this petition the deposit with the court of any rent that would become due during the 30-day period after the filing of the petition.
- ☐ Debtor certifies that he/she has served the Landlord with this certification. (11 U.S.C. § 362(l)).

Voluntary Petition

(This page must be completed and filed in every case)

Document

Name of Debtor(s):

Donald E Barton**Signatures****Signature(s) of Debtor(s) (Individual/Joint)**

I declare under penalty of perjury that the information provided in this petition is true and correct.

[If petitioner is an individual whose debts are primarily consumer debts and has chosen to file under chapter 7] I am aware that I may proceed under chapter 7, 11, 12 or 13 of title 11, United States Code, understand the relief available under each such chapter, and choose to proceed under chapter 7.

[If no attorney represents me and no bankruptcy petition preparer signs the petition] I have obtained and read the notice required by 11 U.S.C. § 342(b).

I request relief in accordance with the chapter of title 11, United States Code, specified in this petition.

X /s/ Donald E BartonSignature of Debtor **Donald E Barton****X Not Applicable**

Signature of Joint Debtor

Telephone Number (If not represented by attorney)

10/6/2008

Date

Signature of a Foreign Representative

I declare under penalty of perjury that the information provided in this petition is true and correct, that I am the foreign representative of a debtor in a foreign proceeding, and that I am authorized to file this petition.

(Check only **one** box.)

☐ I request relief in accordance with chapter 15 of Title 11, United States Code. Certified Copies of the documents required by § 1515 of title 11 are attached.

☐ Pursuant to 11 U.S.C. § 1511, I request relief in accordance with the Chapter of title 11 specified in the petition. A certified copy of the order granting recognition of the foreign main proceeding is attached.

X Not Applicable

(Signature of Foreign Representative)

(Printed Name of Foreign Representative)

Date

Signature of Attorney**X /s/Karen J. Porter**

Signature of Attorney for Debtor(s)

Karen J. Porter Bar No. 6188626

Printed Name of Attorney for Debtor(s) / Bar No.

Porter Law Network

Firm Name

230 West Monroe Suite 240

Address

Chicago, IL 60606**312-372-4400****312-372-4160**

Telephone Number

10/6/2008

Date

*In a case in which § 707(b)(4)(D) applies, this signature also constitutes a certification that the attorney has no knowledge after an inquiry that the information in the schedules is incorrect.

Signature of Non-Attorney Petition Preparer

I declare under penalty of perjury that: (1) I am a bankruptcy petition preparer as defined in 11 U.S.C. § 110; (2) I prepared this document for compensation and have provided the debtor with a copy of this document and the notices and information required under 11 U.S.C. §§ 110(b), 110(h), and 342(b); and, (3) if rules or guidelines have been promulgated pursuant to 11 U.S.C. § 110(h) setting a maximum fee for services chargeable by bankruptcy petition preparers, I have given the debtor notice of the maximum amount before preparing any document for filing for a debtor or accepting any fee from the debtor, as required in that section. Official Form 19 is attached.

Not Applicable

Printed Name and title, if any, of Bankruptcy Petition Preparer

Social-Security number (If the bankruptcy petition preparer is not an individual, state the Social-Security number of the officer, principal, responsible person or partner of the bankruptcy petition preparer.) (Required by 11 U.S.C. § 110.)

Address

X Not Applicable

Date

Signature of bankruptcy petition preparer or officer, principal, responsible person, or partner whose Social-Security number is provided above.

Names and Social-Security numbers of all other individuals who prepared or assisted in preparing this document unless the bankruptcy petition preparer is not an individual.

If more than one person prepared this document, attach to the appropriate official form for each person.

A bankruptcy petition preparer's failure to comply with the provisions of title 11 and the Federal Rules of Bankruptcy Procedure may result in fines or imprisonment or both. 11 U.S.C. § 110; 18 U.S.C. § 156.

Signature of Debtor (Corporation/Partnership)

I declare under penalty of perjury that the information provided in this petition is true and correct, and that I have been authorized to file this petition on behalf of the debtor.

The debtor requests the relief in accordance with the chapter of title 11, United States Code, specified in this petition.

X Not Applicable

Signature of Authorized Individual

Printed Name of Authorized Individual

Title of Authorized Individual

Date

UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT
Northern District of Illinois
Eastern Division

In re: **Donald E Barton**
Debtor

Case No. _____
(if known)

**EXHIBIT D - INDIVIDUAL DEBTOR'S STATEMENT OF COMPLIANCE WITH
CREDIT COUNSELING REQUIREMENT**

Warning: You must be able to check truthfully one of the five statements regarding credit counseling listed below. If you cannot do so, you are not eligible to file a bankruptcy case, and the court can dismiss any case you do file. If that happens, you will lose whatever filing fee you paid, and your creditors will be able to resume collection activities against you. If your case is dismissed and you file another bankruptcy case later, you may be required to pay a second filing fee and you may have to take extra steps to stop creditors' collection activities.

Every individual debtor must file this Exhibit D. If a joint petition is filed, each spouse must complete and file a separate Exhibit D. Check one of the five statements below and attach any documents as directed.

☒ 1. Within the 180 days **before the filing of my bankruptcy case**, I received a briefing from a credit counseling agency approved by the United States trustee or bankruptcy administrator that outlined the opportunities for available credit counseling and assisted me in performing a related budget analysis, and I have a certificate from the agency describing the services provided to me. *Attach a copy of the certificate and a copy of any debt repayment plan developed through the agency.*

☐ 2. Within the **180 days before the filing of my bankruptcy case**, I received a briefing from a credit counseling agency approved by the United States trustee or bankruptcy administrator that outlined the opportunities for available credit counseling and assisted me in performing a related budget analysis, but I do not have a certificate from the agency describing the services provided to me. *You must file a copy of a certificate from the agency describing the services provided to you and a copy of any debt repayment plan developed through the agency no later than 15 days after your bankruptcy case is filed.*

☐ 3. I certify that I requested credit counseling services from an approved agency but was unable to obtain the services during the five days from the time I made my request, and the following exigent circumstances merit a temporary waiver of the credit counseling requirement so I can file my bankruptcy case now. *[Must be accompanied by a motion for determination by the court.] [Summarize exigent circumstances here.]* _____

If the court is satisfied with the reasons stated in your motion, it will send you an order approving your request. You must still obtain the credit counseling briefing within the first 30 days after you file your bankruptcy case and promptly file a certificate from the agency that provided the briefing, together with a copy of any debt management plan developed through the agency. Any extension of the 30-day deadline can be granted only for cause and is limited to a maximum of 15 days. A motion for extension must be filed within the 30-day period. Failure to fulfill these requirements may result in dismissal of your case. If the court is not satisfied with your reasons for filing your bankruptcy case without first receiving a credit counseling briefing, your case may be dismissed.

☐ 4. I am not required to receive a credit counseling briefing because of: *[Check the applicable statement.] [Must be accompanied by a motion for determination by the court.]*

☐ Incapacity. (Defined in 11 U.S.C. § 109(h)(4) as impaired by reason of mental illness or mental deficiency so as to be incapable of realizing and making rational decisions with respect to financial responsibilities.);

☐ Disability. (Defined in 11 U.S.C. § 109(h)(4) as physically impaired to the extent of being unable, after reasonable effort, to participate in a credit counseling briefing in person, by telephone, or through the Internet.);

☐ Active military duty in a military combat zone.

☐ 5. The United States trustee or bankruptcy administrator has determined that the credit counseling requirement of 11 U.S.C. ' 109(h) does not apply in this district.

I certify under penalty of perjury that the information provided above is true and correct.

Signature of Debtor: /s/ Donald E Barton
Donald E Barton

Date: 10/6/2008

Karen J. Porter 6188626
Porter Law Network
230 West Monroe
Suite 240
Chicago, IL 60606

312-372-4400
Attorney for the Petitioner(s)

UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT

Northern District of Illinois

Eastern Division

In Re:

Debtor: **Donald E Barton**

Social Security Number: **xxx-xx-8299**

Case No:

Chapter **13**

Numbered Listing of Creditors

Creditor name and mailing address		Category of Claim	Amount of Claim
1.	American General Finance P.O. Box 790368 St. Louis, MO 63179-0368	Unsecured Claims	\$ 4,309.00
2.	Amerifirst 4405 South 96th Street Omaha, NE 68127-1210	Unsecured Claims	\$ 9,945.14
3.	Chase Auto Finance P.O. Box 5210 New Hyde Park NY 11042 need account number	Secured Claims	\$ 14,000.00
4.	Chase Auto Finance P.O. Box 9001083 Louisville, KY 40290-1083	Unsecured Claims	\$ 14,028.95
5.	CitiFinancial P.O. Box 6931 The Lakes, NV 88901-6931	Unsecured Claims	\$ 7,705.62

In re: **Donald E Barton**

Case No. _____

6.	Citimortgage P.O. Box 183040 Columbus OH 43218-3040	Secured Claims	\$ 128,000.00
7.	Kay Jewelers P.O. Box 740425 Cincinnati OH 45274-0425	Unsecured Claims	\$ 214.49
8.	Washington Mutual P.O. Box 660487 Dallas, TX 75266-0487	Unsecured Claims	\$ 3,805.01

In re: **Donald E Barton**

Case No. _____

(The penalty for making a false statement or concealing property is a fine up to \$500,000 or imprisonment for up to 5 years or both. 18 U.S.C. secs. 152 and 3571.)

DECLARATION

I, **Donald E Barton**, named as debtor in this case, declare under penalty of perjury that I have have read the foregoing Numbered Listing of Creditors, consisting of **2 sheets** (not including this declaration), and that it is true to the best of my information and belief.

Signature: **/s/ Donald E Barton**
Donald E Barton

Dated: **10/6/2008**

**STATEMENT OF SOCIAL-SECURITY NUMBER OR
INDIVIDUAL TAXPAYER-IDENTIFICATION NUMBER (ITIN)**

**UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT
Northern District of Illinois
Eastern Division**

In re Donald E Barton, Debtor) Case No. _____
) Chapter 13
)
Address: 3000 Sherwood Ave)
Markham, IL 60428)
)
)
Last four digits of Social-Security or Individual Taxpayer-)
Identification (ITIN) No(s), (if any): xxx-xx-8299)
Employer Tax-Identification (EIN) No(s), (if any):)
)
)

**STATEMENT OF SOCIAL-SECURITY NUMBER(S)
(or other Individual Taxpayer-Identification Number(s) (ITIN(s)))**

1. Name of Debtor (Last, First, Middle): Barton, Donald, E

(Check the appropriate box and, if applicable, provide the required information.)

- ☒ Debtor has a Social-Security Number and it is: 346 - 62 - 8299
(If more than one, state all.)
- ☐ Debtor does not have a Social-Security Number but has an Individual Taxpayer-Identification Number (ITIN), and it is: _____
(if more than one, state all.)
- ☐ Debtor does not have either a Social-Security Number or an Individual Taxpayer-Identification Number (ITIN).

2. Name of Joint Debtor (Last, First, Middle): _____

(Check the appropriate box and, if applicable, provide the required information.)

- ☐ Joint Debtor has a Social-Security Number and it is: _____ - _____ - _____
(If more than one, state all.)
- ☐ Joint Debtor does not have a Social-Security Number but has an Individual Taxpayer-Identification Number (ITIN), and it is: _____
(if more than one, state all.)
- ☐ Joint Debtor does not have either a Social-Security Number or an Individual Taxpayer-Identification Number (ITIN).

I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct.

X /s/ Donald E Barton 10/6/2008
Donald E Barton
Signature of Debtor Date

**UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT
NORTHERN DISTRICT OF ILLINOIS
EASTERN DIVISION**

In re:

Donald E Barton

Case No.

Judge:

**RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES AGREEMENT BETWEEN
CHAPTER 13 DEBTORS AND THEIR ATTORNEYS
(Model Retention Agreement, revised as of May 1, 2007)**

Chapter 13 gives debtors important rights, such as the right to keep property that could otherwise be lost through repossession or foreclosure—but Chapter 13 also puts burdens on debtors, such as the burden of making complete and truthful disclosures of their financial situation. It is important for debtors who file a Chapter 13 bankruptcy case to understand their rights and responsibilities in bankruptcy. In this connection, the advice of an attorney is often crucial. Debtors are entitled to certain services from by their attorneys, but debtors also have responsibilities to their attorneys. In order to assure that debtors and their attorneys understand their rights and responsibilities in the Chapter 13 process, the judges of the Bankruptcy Court for the Northern District of Illinois have approved the following agreement, setting out the rights and responsibilities of both debtors in Chapter 13 and their attorneys. By signing this agreement, debtors and their attorneys accept these responsibilities.

BEFORE THE CASE IS FILED

THE DEBTOR AGREES TO:

1. Discuss with the attorney the debtor's objectives in filing the case.
2. Provide the attorney with full, accurate and timely information, financial and otherwise, including properly documented proof of income.

THE ATTORNEY AGREES TO:

1. Personally counsel the debtor regarding the advisability of filing either a Chapter 13 or a Chapter 7 case, discuss both procedures (as well as non-bankruptcy options) with the debtor, and answer the debtor's questions.
2. Personally explain to the debtor that the attorney is being engaged to represent the debtor on all matters arising in the case, as required by Local Bankruptcy rule and explain how and when the attorney's fees and the trustee's fees are determined and paid.
3. Personally review with the debtor and sign the completed petition, plan, statements, and schedules, as well as all amendments thereto, whether filed with the petition or later. (The schedules may be initially prepared with the help of clerical or paralegal staff of the attorney's office, but personal attention of the attorney is required for the review and signing.)
4. Timely prepare and file the debtor's petition, plan, statements, and schedules.
5. Explain to the debtor how, when, and where to make all necessary payments, including both payments that must be made directly to creditors and payments that must be made to the Chapter 13 trustee, with particular attention to housing and vehicle payments.
6. Advise the debtor of the need to maintain appropriate insurance.

AFTER THE CASE IS FILED

THE DEBTOR AGREES TO:

1. Make the required payments to the trustee and to whatever creditors are being paid directly, or, if required payments cannot be made, to notify the attorney immediately.
2. Appear punctually at the meeting of creditors (also called the "341 meeting") with recent proof of income and a picture identification card. (If the identification card does not include the debtor's social security number, the debtor will also bring to the meeting a social security card.) The debtor must be present in time for check-in and when the case is called for the actual examination.
3. Notify the attorney of any change in the debtor's address or telephone number.
4. Inform the attorney of any wage garnishments or liens or levies on assets that occur or continue after the filing of the case.
5. Contact the attorney immediately if the debtor loses employment, has a significant change in income, or experiences any other significant change in financial situation (such as serious illness, marriage, divorce or separation, lottery winnings, or an inheritance).
6. Notify the attorney if the debtor is sued or wishes to file a lawsuit (including divorce).
7. Inform the attorney if any tax refunds to which the debtor is entitled are seized or not received when due from the IRS or Illinois Department of Revenue.
8. Contact the attorney before buying, refinancing, or selling real property, and before entering into any loan agreement.
9. Supply the attorney with copies of all tax returns filed while the case is pending.

THE ATTORNEY AGREES TO:

1. Advise the debtor of the requirement to attend the meeting of creditors, and notify the debtor of the date, time, and place of the meeting.
2. Inform the debtor that the debtor must be punctual and, in the case of a joint filing, that both spouses must appear at the same meeting.
3. Provide knowledgeable legal representation for the debtor at the meeting of creditors (in time for check-in and the actual examination) and, unless excused by the trustee, for the confirmation hearing.
4. If the attorney will be employing another attorney to attend the 341 meeting or any court hearing, personally explain to the debtor in advance, the role and identity of the other attorney and provide the other attorney with the file in sufficient time to review it and properly represent the debtor.
5. Timely submit to the Chapter 13 trustee properly documented proof of income for the debtor, including business reports for self-employed debtors.
6. Timely respond to objections to plan confirmation and, where necessary, prepare, file, and serve an amended plan.

7. Timely prepare, file, and serve any necessary statements, amended statements and schedules and any change of address, in accordance with information provided by the debtor.
8. Monitor all incoming case information (including, but not limited to, Order Confirming Plan, Notice of Intent to Pay Claims, and 6-month status reports) for accuracy and completeness. Contact the trustee promptly regarding any discrepancies.
9. Be available to respond to the debtor's questions throughout the term of the plan.
10. Prepare, file, and serve timely modifications to the plan after confirmation, when necessary, including modifications to suspend, lower, or increase plan payments.
11. Prepare, file, and serve necessary motions to buy or sell property and to incur debt.
12. Object to improper or invalid claims.
13. Timely respond to the Chapter 13 trustee's motions to dismiss the case, such as for payment default, or unfeasibility, and to motions to increase the percentage payment to unsecured creditors.
14. Timely respond to motions for relief from stay.
15. Prepare, file, and serve all appropriate motions to avoid liens.
16. Provide any other legal services necessary for the administration of the case.
17. In the event that the case is converted to Chapter 7, provide any other legal services which may be necessary consistent with the attorney's responsibilities under Local Bankruptcy Rule 2090-5, with such additional fees as may be appropriate.

ALLOWANCE AND PAYMENT OF ATTORNEYS' FEES

1. Any attorney retained to represent a debtor in a Chapter 13 case is responsible for representing the debtor on all matters arising in the case unless otherwise ordered by the court. For all of the services outlined above, the attorney will be paid a fee of

\$ 2,625.00

In extraordinary circumstances, such as extended evidentiary hearings or appeals, the attorney may apply to the court for additional compensation for these services. Any such application must be accompanied by an itemization of the services rendered, showing the date, the time expended, and the identity of the attorney performing the services. The debtor must be served with a copy of the application and notified of the right to appear in court to object.

2. *Early termination of the case.* Fees payable under the provisions set out above are not refundable in the event that the case is dismissed, unless the dismissal is due to a failure by the attorney to comply with the duties set out in this agreement. If a dismissal is due to such a failure by the attorney, the court may order a refund of fees on motion by the debtor.

3. *Retainers.* The attorney may receive a retainer or other payment before filing the case, but may not receive fees directly from the debtor after the filing of the case. In any application for fees, whether or not requiring an itemization, the attorney shall disclose to the court any fees paid by the debtor prior to the case filing.

4. *Improper conduct by the attorney.* If the debtor disputes the sufficiency or quality of the legal services provided or the amount of the fees charged by the attorney, the debtor may file an objection with the court and request a hearing.

5. *Improper conduct by the debtor.* If the attorney believes that the debtor is not complying with the debtor's responsibilities under this agreement or is otherwise not engaging in proper conduct, the attorney may apply for a court order allowing the attorney to withdraw from the case.

6. *Discharge of the attorney.* The debtor may discharge the attorney at any time.

Date:

10/6/2008

Signed:

/s/ Donald E Barton

Donald E Barton

Debtor

Do not sign if the fee amount at top of this page is blank.

/s/Karen J. Porter

Karen J. Porter

Attorney for Debtor(s)

UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT
Northern District of Illinois
Eastern Division

In re: Donald E Barton
Debtor

Case No. _____
Chapter 13

**DISCLOSURE OF COMPENSATION OF ATTORNEY
FOR DEBTOR**

1. Pursuant to 11 U.S.C. § 329(a) and Bankruptcy Rule 2016(b), I certify that I am the attorney for the above-named debtor(s) and that compensation paid to me within one year before the filing of the petition in bankruptcy, or agreed to be paid to me, for services rendered or to be rendered on behalf of the debtor(s) in contemplation of or in connection with the bankruptcy case is as follows:

For legal services, I have agreed to accept	\$	<u>2,899.00</u>
Prior to the filing of this statement I have received	\$	<u>1,274.00</u>
Balance Due	\$	<u>1,625.00</u>

2. The source of compensation paid to me was:

☒ Debtor ☐ Other (specify)

3. The source of compensation to be paid to me is:

☒ Debtor ☐ Other (specify)

4. ☒ I have not agreed to share the above-disclosed compensation with any other person unless they are members and associates of my law firm.

☐ I have agreed to share the above-disclosed compensation with a person or persons who are not members or associates of my law firm. A copy of the agreement, together with a list of the names of the people sharing in the compensation, is attached.

5. In return for the above-disclosed fee, I have agreed to render legal service for all aspects of the bankruptcy case, including:

- a) Analysis of the debtor's financial situation, and rendering advice to the debtor in determining whether to file a petition in bankruptcy;
- b) Preparation and filing of any petition, schedules, statement of affairs, and plan which may be required;
- c) Representation of the debtor at the meeting of creditors and confirmation hearing, and any adjourned hearings thereof;
- d) Representation of the debtor in adversary proceedings and other contested bankruptcy matters;
- e) [Other provisions as needed]

The filing fee of 274.00 has been paid

6. By agreement with the debtor(s) the above disclosed fee does not include the following services:

None

CERTIFICATION

I certify that the foregoing is a complete statement of any agreement or arrangement for payment to me for representation of the debtor(s) in this bankruptcy proceeding.

Dated: 10/6/2008

/s/Karen J. Porter

Karen J. Porter, Bar No. 6188626

Porter Law Network

Attorney for Debtor(s)